

MINUTES
TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD
COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
Wednesday, April 24, 7:00 PM

1. SPECIAL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER, 7:00 PM

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Garrett Sheehan (Chair), John Johnson, John Rixon, Adam Raider (Secretary), Alberto Cortes, Kate Hamilton, Randy Molloy, Chris Barnes (Council Liaison), Renee McCue (Town of West Hartford). Excused: Harriet Winograd. Absent: Louise Psaras.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Molloy moved and Mr. Sheehan seconded to approve the meeting minutes from 3/19/19.

4. NEW MEMBERS

The Commission welcomed new members Alberto Cortes, Randy Molloy and Kate Hamilton.

5. 2019 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Ms. McCue provided an update on Memorial Day Parade plans, and asked for suggestions for Grand Marshal, keynote speaker, and clergy to deliver invocation/benediction. Mr. Rixon reported that 97-year-old veteran resident John Dahaher, Jr. had agreed to serve as Grand Marshal. The Commission responded favorably to Ms. McCue's suggestion of Rev. Dana Lee Hallenbeck, chaplain, Connecticut State Police Department and former West Hartford town employee, to deliver the prayers. Ms. McCue said a keynote speaker needs to be identified soon.

The group discussed the availability of various vehicles, military and otherwise.

Mr. Sheehan expressed his gratitude to Ms. McCue for her efforts to organize the parade.

The Commission also heard from Jeffrey Cole, Commander of American Legion Hayes-Velhage Post 96, who spoke about the Legion's plans for Memorial Day as well as other activities including their annual recognition ceremony for high school students entering the military, and work on behalf of homeless veterans. Mr. Cole mentioned Connecticut VA Commissioner Thomas J. Saadi as a possible keynote speaker, but cautioned that he might be difficult to secure because he receives many similar requests.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sheehan moved and Mr. Raider seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Submitted by:



Adam Raider
Commission Secretary